

JUMPING NUMBERS ON ALGEBRAIC SURFACES WITH RATIONAL SINGULARITIES

KEVIN TUCKER

In memory of Juha Heinonen

ABSTRACT. In this article, we study the jumping numbers of an ideal in the local ring at rational singularity on a complex algebraic surface. By understanding the contributions of reduced divisors on a fixed resolution, we are able to present an algorithm for finding of the jumping numbers of the ideal. This shows, in particular, how to compute the jumping numbers of a plane curve from the numerical data of its minimal resolution. In addition, the jumping numbers of the maximal ideal at the singular point in a Du Val or toric surface singularity are computed, and applications to the smooth case are explored.

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
2. Multiplier Ideals on Rational Surface Singularities	3
3. Jumping Numbers Contributed by Divisors	5
4. Numerical Criterion for Critical Contribution	8
5. Geometry of Contributing Collections	10
6. Jumping Number Algorithm and Computations	12
7. Applications to Smooth Surfaces	17
References	19

1. INTRODUCTION

To every sheaf of ideals \mathfrak{a} on a complex algebraic variety X with mild singularities, one can associate its multiplier ideals $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$. Indexed by positive rational numbers λ , this family forms a nested sequence of ideals. The values of λ where the multiplier ideals change are known as jumping numbers. These discrete local invariants were studied systematically in [ELSV04], after appearing indirectly in [Lib83], [LV90], [Vaq92], and [Vaq94]. The jumping numbers encode algebraic information about the ideal, and geometric properties of the associated closed subscheme. Smaller jumping numbers can be thought to correspond to “worse” singularities.

The author was partially supported by the NSF under grant DMS-0502170.

In order to find the jumping numbers of an ideal, one must first undertake the difficult task of resolving singularities. However, even when a resolution is readily available, calculating jumping numbers can be problematic. Outside the work of Howald on monomial ideals in [How01], few examples have been successfully computed. In the present article, we study jumping numbers on an algebraic surface with a rational singularity. We will show how to find the jumping numbers of an ideal by understanding the numerics of a log resolution. This result significantly improves our ability to compute these invariants, and provides important new examples for the continuing study of jumping numbers.

Perhaps the most important application of our method lies in finding the jumping numbers of an embedded curve on a smooth surface. While recent progress has been made along these lines in [Jär06], the algorithm we present is simple to use and unique in that it applies to reducible curves. Once the singularities of the curve have been resolved, the invariants are found by checking finitely many inequalities between intersection numbers on the resolution. For emphasis, we will use plane curves in motivating examples throughout this article, and Section 6 is entirely devoted to applications on smooth surfaces. Proposition 7.3 shows, for example, that a complete finite-colength ideal in the local ring at a closed point of a smooth surface is simple if and only if 1 is not a jumping number of the ideal.

Our techniques build upon the work of Smith and Thompson in [ST06]. Roughly speaking, multiplier ideals are defined by a finite number of divisorial conditions on a given resolution. These conditions are by no means independent, and checking each of them is often unnecessary. We work to identify which of these conditions are essential near a change in the multiplier ideals. By reducing the number of conditions to check, we improve our ability to compute jumping numbers and understand the information these invariants encode.

To give a more detailed overview, we briefly summarize our definitions. Let \mathfrak{a} be an ideal sheaf on a complex algebraic surface X with a rational singularity. Fix a log resolution $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ of the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) , with $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$ and relative canonical divisor K_π . If G is a reduced subdivisor of F , we say $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ is a *candidate jumping number* for $G = E_1 + \cdots + E_k$ when $\text{ord}_{E_i}(K_\pi - \lambda F)$ is an integer for all $i = 1, \dots, k$. Every jumping number is necessarily a candidate jumping number for some G , while not every candidate jumping number is realized as a jumping number. When a candidate jumping number λ for G is a jumping number, we say λ is *contributed* by G if

$$\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \pi_*\mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil) \neq \pi_*\mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G).$$

This contribution is said to be *critical* if, in addition, no proper subdivisor of G contributes λ . The content of Theorems 4.3 and 5.1 is summarized below, showing how to identify the reduced exceptional divisors which critically contribute a jumping number.

Theorem. *Suppose \mathfrak{a} is an ideal sheaf on a complex surface X with an isolated rational singularity. Fix a log resolution $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ with $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$, and a reduced divisor $G = E_1 + \cdots + E_k$ on Y with exceptional support.*

- (i) *The jumping numbers λ critically contributed by G are determined by the intersection numbers $[K_\pi - \lambda F] \cdot E_i$, for $i = 1, \dots, k$.*
- (ii) *If G critically contributes a jumping number, then it is necessarily a connected chain of smooth rational curves. The ends of G must either intersect three other prime divisors in the support of F , or correspond to a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} .*

Smith and Thompson [ST06] originally defined jumping number contribution for prime divisors. However, in order to account for all jumping numbers, it is not sufficient to consider prime divisors alone. By extending the notion of contribution as above, we ensure that every jumping number is critically contributed by some reduced divisor. This observation and the Theorem above are the basis for the algorithm presented in Section 6. Further, critical contribution by a reduced exceptional divisor with multiple components is readily observed. If G is a connected chain of exceptional divisors on a fixed birational modification π of the plane over the origin, there is an ideal \mathfrak{a} having π as a log resolution with a jumping number critically contributed by G .

The structure of this article is as follows. In Section 2, we briefly recall the definitions of multiplier ideals, jumping numbers, and a rational singularities on algebraic surfaces. We also review without proof the properties of each which will be necessary for our calculations. Section 3 motivates and defines the notion of jumping number contribution by a reduced divisor on a fixed log resolution. The numerical criteria for critical contribution is derived in Section 4, the technical heart of the paper, and we deduce that a critically contributing exceptional collection is a chain of rational curves in Section 5. At the beginning of Section 6, we outline the algorithm for computing jumping numbers. The remainder of the section is devoted to two substantial applications, where we compute the jumping numbers of the maximal ideal at the singular point in a Du Val (Example 6.1) or toric surface singularity (Example 6.2). In the final section, we specialize to the smooth case in order to discuss various questions and applications.

We would like to thank Mattias Jonsson, Karen Smith, Karl Schwede, Alan Stapledon, and several others in the community at the University of Michigan for useful conversations and support.

2. MULTIPLIER IDEALS ON RATIONAL SURFACE SINGULARITIES

We begin by fixing notation and recalling the precise definition of a multiplier ideal. Unless explicitly altered, these conventions shall remain in effect throughout. Let R be the local ring at a closed point on a normal complex algebraic surface with function field $\mathcal{K} = \text{Frac}(R)$. Recall that R is said to be a rational singularity if there exists a resolution of singularities $\pi : Y \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ such that $H^1(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) = 0$. The theory of rational singularities of algebraic surfaces was first

developed by Artin in [Art66] and [Art62], and studied extensively by Lipman in [Lip69]. We shall need various facts proved therein, and cite them without proof as necessary.

Recall that a log resolution of an ideal $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq R$ is a proper birational morphism $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ such that

- Y is smooth, and $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y$ is the locally principal ideal sheaf of an effective divisor F ;
- The prime exceptional divisors and the irreducible components of F are all smooth and intersect transversely.

When X is smooth, it is well known that these resolutions exist; further, any such is a composition of maps obtained by blowing up closed points. The same is also true when X has rational singularities; see Theorem 4.1 of [Lip69].

Since X is normal, there is a well defined linear equivalence class of canonical Weil divisors. We may choose a representative K_X for this class by setting $K_X = \pi_* K_Y$, where K_Y is a canonical divisor on Y . It is shown in [Lip69], Proposition 17.1, that the divisor class group of R is finite. Hence, there is an integer $m > 0$ such that mK_X is a Cartier divisor. In particular, $\pi^* K_X = \frac{1}{m} \pi^*(mK_X)$ is a well-defined \mathbb{Q} -divisor on Y . By construction, there is an exceptionally supported \mathbb{Q} -divisor K_π such that

$$K_Y = \pi^* K_X + K_\pi.$$

One checks K_π is independent of the choice of canonical divisor on Y , which we refer to as the relative canonical divisor. In general, K_π is neither integral nor effective; however, when X is smooth, K_π is both as it is defined by the Jacobian determinant of π .

If $D = \sum d_j D_j$ is a \mathbb{Q} -divisor, set $\lfloor D \rfloor = \sum \lfloor d_j \rfloor D_j$ and $\{D\} = \sum \{d_j\} D_j$ to be the integer and fractional parts of D , respectively. Note that $D = \lfloor D \rfloor + \{D\}$. Further, let $\lceil D \rceil = -\lfloor -D \rfloor$ be the round-up of D . In general, these operations do not behave well with respect to restriction or pull-back.

Definition 2.1. The *multiplier ideal* of the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) with coefficient $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ is the ideal $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil)$ in R .

For an introduction in the smooth case, we refer the reader to [BL04]. One immediately checks that this definition is independent of the choice of log resolution; however, we will generally work with a fixed resolution. Since X has rational singularities, this is motivated in part by the existence of a minimal log resolution, i.e. a log resolution through which all others must factor. See [Lip69] for further discussion.

Multiplier ideals have emerged as a fundamental tool in algebraic and analytic geometry. A detailed account of their properties, applications, and further references, may be found in [Laz04]. Here we briefly mention two important results to which we will refer in later sections.

- The *local vanishing* property of multiplier ideals states that $R^j \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil) = 0$ for all $j > 0$, and all $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$.

- According to *Skoda's Theorem*, $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \mathfrak{a} \mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^{\lambda-1})$ for all $\lambda > \dim(R) = 2$.

The first result essentially follows from the vanishing theorems of Kawamata and Viehweg,¹ and can be used give a proof of the second statement.

By identifying the function fields of X and Y , each prime divisor E appearing in K_π or F corresponds to a discrete valuation ord_E on $\mathcal{K} = \text{Frac}(R)$ with value group \mathbb{Z} . To check whether a function $f \in R$ is in $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$, one must show for all such E that

$$(1) \quad \text{ord}_E f \geq \text{ord}_E(\lfloor \lambda F - K_\pi \rfloor).$$

Consider what happens as one varies λ . Increasing λ slightly does not change (1); thus, $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^{\lambda+\epsilon})$ for sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$. However, continuing to increase λ further will cause the coefficient of E in $\lfloor \lambda F - K_\pi \rfloor$ to change, and this sometimes results in a jump in the multiplier ideals $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$.

Definition 2.2. We say that $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ is a *candidate jumping number* for a prime divisor E appearing in F if the order of vanishing necessary for membership (1) in the multiplier ideals of (X, \mathfrak{a}) changes at λ , i.e. $\text{ord}_E(\lambda F - K_\pi)$ is an integer. If G is a reduced divisor on Y , a candidate jumping number for G is a common candidate jumping number for the prime divisors in its support. The coefficient $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ is a *jumping number* of the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) if $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^{\lambda-\epsilon}) \neq \mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$ for all $\epsilon > 0$. The smallest jumping number is the *log canonical threshold* of the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) .

Since X is normal, note that condition (1) is trivial for $\text{ord}_E(\lfloor \lambda F - K_\pi \rfloor) \leq 0$. We see explicitly that the nontrivial candidate jumping numbers for E are $\{\frac{\text{ord}_E K_\pi + m}{\text{ord}_E F} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$. The jumping numbers of (X, \mathfrak{a}) are in general strictly contained in the union of the candidate jumping numbers of all of the prime divisors appearing in F . In particular, they form a discrete set of invariants. Furthermore, by Skoda's Theorem, the jumping numbers of a pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) are eventually periodic; $\lambda > 2$ is a jumping number if and only if $\lambda - 1$ is a jumping number.

3. JUMPING NUMBERS CONTRIBUTED BY DIVISORS

In order to compute the jumping numbers of (X, \mathfrak{a}) from a log resolution $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$, we must first understand the causes in the underlying jumps of the multiplier ideals. To this end, the following definitions allow us to attribute the appearance of a jumping number to certain reduced divisors on Y .

Definition 3.1. Let G be a reduced divisor on Y whose support is contained in the support of F . We will say G *contributes* a candidate jumping number λ if

$$\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) \subsetneq \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G).$$

¹ See generalization 9.1.22 of [Laz04] for a sketch of the proof of local vanishing in this generality, or Theorem 1-2-3 of [KMM87] for a complete argument. The original vanishing theorems appear in [Kaw82] and [Vie82].

This contribution is said to be *critical* if, in addition, no proper subdivisor of G contributes λ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')$$

for all divisors G' on Y such that $0 \leq G' < G$.

Note that this is an extension of Definition 5 from [ST06], where Smith and Thompson introduced jumping number contribution for prime divisors. Further, if a jumping number is contributed by a prime divisor E , this contribution is automatically critical. It is easy to see every jumping number is critically contributed by some reduced divisor on Y . The following example illustrates the original motivation for defining jumping number contribution.

Example 3.2. Suppose R is the local ring at the origin in \mathbb{A}^2 , and C is the germ of the analytically irreducible curve defined by the polynomial $x^{13} - y^5 = 0$. The minimal log resolution $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ of C is a sequence of six blow-ups along closed points (there is a unique singular point on the transform of C for the first three blow-ups, after which it takes an additional three blow-ups to ensure normal crossings). If E_1, \dots, E_6 are the exceptional divisors created, one checks

$$\pi^* C = C + 5E_1 + 10E_2 + 13E_3 + 25E_4 + 39E_5 + 65E_6 \quad K_\pi = E_1 + 2E_2 + 3E_3 + 6E_4 + 10E_5 + 17E_6.$$

Thus, the nontrivial candidate jumping numbers of E_1 are $\{\frac{1+m}{5} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$, whereas those for E_6 are $\{\frac{17+m}{65} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$. One can compute² that the jumping numbers of the pair (\mathbb{A}^2, C) are precisely

$$\left\{ \frac{13(r+1) + 5(s+1)}{65} + t \mid r, s, t \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \text{ and } \frac{13(r+1) + 5(s+1)}{65} < 1 \right\} \cup \mathbb{Z}_{>0}.$$

Note that the jumping numbers less than one are all candidate jumping numbers for E_6 , but for no other E_i . Thus, for any jumping number $\lambda < 1$ and sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$\mathcal{J}(X, \lambda C) \subsetneq \pi_* \mathcal{O}_X(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda \pi^* C \rceil + E_6) = \mathcal{J}(X, (\lambda - \epsilon)C).$$

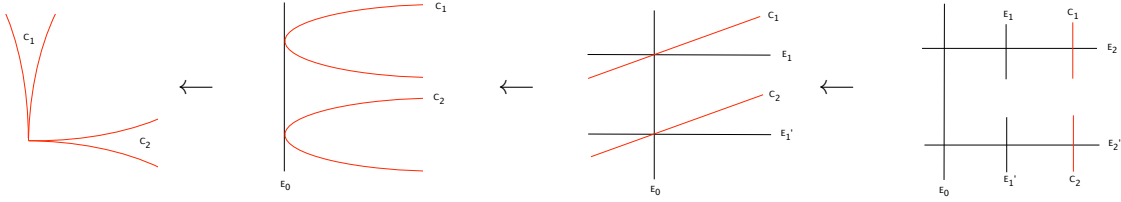
In other words, the jump in the multiplier ideal at λ is due solely to the change in condition (1) along E_6 . According to Definition 3.1, all of the jumping numbers less than one are contributed by E_6 , and are not contributed by any other divisor.

In general, however, the situation is often far less transparent. Distinct prime divisors often have common candidate jumping numbers. In some cases, as the next example from [ST06] shows, these prime divisors may separately contribute the same jumping number. In others, collections of these divisors may be needed to capture a jump in the multiplier ideals.

²The polynomial $f(x, y) = x^{13} - y^5$ is nondegenerate with respect to its Newton polyhedron, and thus it is a theorem of Howald [How03] that the jumping numbers of f less than 1 coincide with those of its term ideal (x^{13}, y^5) . One may then use the explicit formula [How01] for the jumping numbers of a monomial ideal to achieve the desired result. This argument is essentially repeated in Example 3.6 of [ELSV04], and discussed at greater length in Section 9.3.C of [Laz04]. Note that since this curve is analytically irreducible, the result also follows from [Jär06]. It is also possible to use the numerical results of Section 5 to check this directly.

Example 3.3. Suppose R is the local ring at the origin in \mathbb{A}^2 , and C is the germ of the plane curve defined by the polynomial $(x^3 - y^2)(x^2 - y^3) = 0$ at the origin. The minimal log resolution π has five exceptional divisors: E_0 obtained from blowing up the origin; E_1 and E'_1 obtained by blowing up the two intersections of E_0 with the transform of the curve C (both points of tangency); and E_2 (respectively E'_2) obtained by blowing up the intersection of the three smooth curves C , E_0 , and E_1 (respectively, the three smooth curves C , E_0 , and E'_1). One checks

$$\pi^*C = C + 4E_0 + 5(E_1 + E'_1) + 10(E_2 + E'_2) \quad K_\pi = E_0 + 2(E_1 + E'_1) + 4(E_2 + E'_2)$$



so that the log canonical threshold is $\frac{1}{2}$. Here, we have $\lceil K_\pi - \frac{1}{2}\pi^*C \rceil = -E_0 - E_2 - E'_2$, so that the three new conditions for membership in $\mathcal{J}(\frac{1}{2}C)$ are vanishing along E_0, E_2, E'_2 . However, and herein lies the problem in determining the precise cause of the jump in the multiplier ideal, these are not independent conditions. Requiring vanishing along any of these three divisors automatically guarantees vanishing along the others. Thus, instead of attributing the jump to any prime divisor, it seems natural to suggest that the collection $E_0 + E_2 + E'_2$ is responsible. According to Definition 3.1, $E_0 + E_2 + E'_2$ critically contributes $\frac{1}{2}$. Further, it is shown in [ST06] that $\frac{9}{10}$ is a jumping number contributed by either E_2 or E'_2 . One may even argue there is a sense in which the collection $E_2 + E'_2$ is responsible for this jump. Indeed, for sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$\mathcal{J}(X, (\frac{9}{10} - \epsilon)C) \subsetneq \pi_*\mathcal{O}_X(\lceil K_\pi - \frac{9}{10}\pi^*C \rceil + E_2) \subsetneq \pi_*\mathcal{O}_X(\lceil K_\pi - \frac{9}{10}\pi^*C \rceil + E_2 + E'_2) = \mathcal{J}(X, \frac{9}{10}C).$$

In this case, the jumping number $\frac{9}{10}$ is contributed by $E_2 + E'_2$; however, this contribution is not critical as either E_2 or E'_2 also contribute $\frac{9}{10}$.

Remark 3.4. Contribution and critical contribution are somewhat subtle to formulate valuatively. If $G = E_1 + \dots + E_k$ critically contributes λ to (X, \mathfrak{a}) , one can show there is some $f \in R$ which is not in $\mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$ because it fails to satisfy condition (1) precisely along E_1, \dots, E_k , and G is a minimal collection with this property. This depends not only on the divisorial valuations appearing in G , but all those appearing in F . In particular, there is no reason to believe this is independent of the chosen resolution. However, when X is smooth, it is possible to formulate a notion of contribution which is model independent by considering all possible resolutions simultaneously. Explicitly, it is shown in [FJ04] that the dual graphs of all resolutions fit together in a nice way to give the so-called valuative tree, and a reduced effective divisor on Y corresponds in a natural way to a union of subtrees of the valuative tree. Similar ideas were explored in [FJ05].

4. NUMERICAL CRITERION FOR CRITICAL CONTRIBUTION

We now begin working towards a numerical test for jumping number contribution. The first step is to interpret contribution cohomologically.

Proposition 4.1. *Suppose that λ is a candidate jumping number for the reduced divisor G . Then λ is realized as a jumping number for (X, \mathfrak{a}) contributed by G if and only if*

$$H^0(G, ([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G) \neq 0.$$

Furthermore, this contribution is critical if and only if we have

$$H^0(G', ([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G')|_{G'}) = 0$$

for all divisors G' on Y such that $0 \leq G' < G$.

Proof. Consider the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y([K_\pi - \lambda F]) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_G([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G \rightarrow 0.$$

on Y . Pushing down to X , we arrive at

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) \rightarrow \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G) \rightarrow \pi_* \mathcal{O}_G([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G \rightarrow R^1 \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y([K_\pi - \lambda F]) \rightarrow \dots$$

However, local vanishing for multiplier ideals guarantees $R^1 \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y([K_\pi - \lambda F]) = 0$. In particular, we see that G contributes a common candidate jumping number λ for E_1, \dots, E_k to the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) if and only if $\pi_* \mathcal{O}_G([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G = H^0(G, ([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G) \neq 0$. The second statement is immediate from the definition of critical contribution. \square

Corollary 4.2. *If G critically contributes a jumping number λ , then G is connected.*

Proof. By way of contradiction, suppose we may write $G = G' + G''$ giving a separation, where $0 < G', G'' < G$ and G', G'' are disjoint. Then we have

$$H^0(G, ([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G) = H^0(G', ([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G')|_{G'}) \oplus H^0(G'', ([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G'')|_{G''}).$$

Thus, if G contributes a jumping number λ to the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) , either G or G' must also contribute λ . In particular, G does not critically contribute λ . \square

Suppose now that G is a reduced divisor on Y with exceptional support. The prime exceptional divisors of π are all smooth rational curves intersecting transversely, and there are no loops³ of exceptional divisors. We therefore assume that $G = E_1 + \dots + E_k$ is a nodal tree of smooth rational curves. A global section s of $\mathcal{O}_G([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_G$ is equivalent to a collection of global sections s_j of $\mathcal{O}_{E_j}([K_\pi - \lambda F] + G)|_{E_j}$ for $j = 1, \dots, k$ which agree on the intersections. Indeed, this statement is easily verified for two rational curves intersecting transversely, and the

³When X is smooth, this statement can be shown by induction on the number of blow-ups in π . More generally, Proposition 1 of [Art66] states that rational singularities are equivalent to $p_a(Z) \leq 0$ for all effective exceptional divisors Z , where $p_a(Z) = 1 - \chi(Z)$ denotes the arithmetic genus.

general case follows by induction on k . Since the existence of nonzero global sections on smooth rational curves is equivalent to having non-negative degree, we now show critical contribution by reduced exceptional divisors can be checked numerically. When G is prime and X is smooth, this criterion was given in [ST06].

Theorem 4.3. *Denote by R the local ring at an isolated rational singularity on a normal complex surface. Let $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq R$ be an ideal, and $\pi : Y \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ a log resolution of (X, \mathfrak{a}) such that $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$. Suppose that λ is a candidate jumping number for the reduced divisor G with connected exceptional support.*

- *If $G = E$ is prime, then λ is (critically) contributed by E to X if and only if*

$$\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil \cdot E \geq -E \cdot E.$$

- *If G is reducible, then λ is critically contributed by G if and only if*

$$\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil \cdot E = -G \cdot E$$

for all prime divisors E in the support of G .

Proof. Suppose first $G = E$ is a single prime exceptional divisor. Then λ is contributed by E if and only if $H^0(E, (\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + E)|_E) \neq 0$. Since $E \cong \mathbb{P}^1$, it is equivalent that this line bundle have non-negative degree, i.e. $\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil \cdot E \geq -E \cdot E$.

Thus, we assume $G = E_1 + \cdots + E_k$ is reducible. Note that the numerical conditions given are clearly sufficient. They are equivalent to saying $\mathcal{O}_G((\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_G)$ restricts to the trivial bundle on each of E_1, \dots, E_k , and hence must be the trivial bundle⁴ on G . In particular, $H^0(G, (\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_G) \neq 0$, and G contributes λ to (X, \mathfrak{a}) . To see this contribution is critical, note that if $0 \leq G' < G$, then the degree of $\mathcal{O}_{G'}((\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_{G'})|_{E_i}$ along E_i is $-E_i \cdot (G - G')$. In particular, the sections of $\mathcal{O}_{G'}((\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_{G'})$ are identically zero when restricted to to any component E_i of G' which intersects $G - G'$, and are constant along any other component of G' . Since G was connected, one sees any global section must be identically zero.

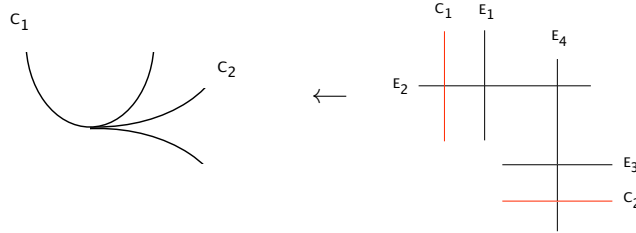
Now, assume G critically contributes λ to (X, \mathfrak{a}) , and let $s \in H^0(G, (\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_G)$ be nonzero. There is some E in $\{E_1, \dots, E_k\}$ such that $s|_E$ is nonzero. In particular, we see that the restriction of $\mathcal{O}_G((\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_G)$ to E has non-negative degree. Suppose, by way of contradiction, its degree is strictly positive. Partition $G - E$ into its connected components, i.e. write $G - E = B_1 + \cdots + B_r$ where each B_i for $1 \leq i \leq r$ is the sum of all of the prime divisors in some connected component of $G - E$. Since G is a nodal tree, we have that $0 < B_i \leq G - E$ and $B_i \cdot E = 1$ for each $i = 1, \dots, r$. Furthermore, observe that the supports of B_1, \dots, B_r are pairwise disjoint. Let p_1, \dots, p_r be the intersection points of B_1, \dots, B_r with E , respectively. Re-indexing if necessary, choose a point $q \in E \setminus \{p_2, \dots, p_r\}$ such that $s(q) = 0$.

⁴This is true whenever G is effective with exceptional support. Theorem 1.7 of [Art62] concludes that the isomorphism class of a line bundle on G is determined by the degrees of its restrictions to E_1, \dots, E_k .

We will show that $G' = G - B_1$ contributes λ by proving $H^0(G', \mathcal{O}_{G'}(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_{G'}) \neq 0$. For $i \neq 1$, we have $(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_{B_i} = (\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_{B_i}$ since the supports of B_1 and B_i are disjoint. In particular, we may consider $s|_{B_i}$ as a global section of $\mathcal{O}_{B_i}(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_{B_i}$. Next, identify $s|_E$ with a nonzero homogeneous polynomial on \mathbb{P}^1 of strictly positive degree. Since $\deg(\mathcal{O}_E(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_E) = \deg(\mathcal{O}_E(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_E) - 1$, removing one of its linear factors corresponding to a zero at q yields a nonzero global section t of $\mathcal{O}_E(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_E$. By construction, $t(p_i) \neq 0$ if and only if $s(p_i) \neq 0$ for $2 \leq i \leq r$. After scaling each $s|_{B_i}$ to agree with t at p_i , we may glue to obtain a nonzero global section of $\mathcal{O}_{G'}(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G')|_{G'}$. But this is absurd, as it implies that G' contributes λ to the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) . Hence, we must have that $\deg(\mathcal{O}_E(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_E) = 0$. Furthermore, nonzero global sections of $\mathcal{O}_E(\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil + G)|_E$ never vanish. As s does not restrict to zero along any component of G which intersects E , the same arguments apply. Using that G is connected, the theorem now follows. \square

Example 4.4. Suppose R is the local ring at the origin in \mathbb{A}^2 , and C is the germ of the plane curve defined by the polynomial $(y - x^2)(y^2 - x^5) = 0$. The minimal log resolution π is a sequence of four blow-ups along closed points (there is a unique singular point on the transform of C for the first two blow-ups, after which it takes an additional two blowups to ensure normal crossings), and is pictured below. If E_1, \dots, E_4 are the exceptional divisors created, one checks

$$\pi^*C = C + 3E_1 + 6E_2 + 7E_3 + 14E_4 \quad K_\pi = E_1 + 2E_2 + 3E_3 + 6E_4$$



The only candidate jumping number less than one shared by both E_2 and E_4 is $\frac{1}{2}$. One now computes directly that $\lceil K_\pi - \frac{1}{2}\pi^*C \rceil = -E_2 - E_4$, and Theorem 4.3 now implies that $E_2 + E_4$ critically contributes the jumping number $\frac{1}{2}$. In Section 6, we will discuss how the numerical criteria in Theorem 4.3 give an algorithm for numerically computing all of the jumping numbers in such examples. However, we postpone further discussion until after we have examined which collections of exceptional divisors have the potential to critically contribute jumping numbers.

5. GEOMETRY OF CONTRIBUTING COLLECTIONS

We first recall some of the theory of complete ideals relevant to our calculations. If R is the local ring at an isolated rational singularity of a normal complex surface, and \mathfrak{a} is an ideal of R , one can define its integral closure $\bar{\mathfrak{a}}$ as follows. Let $\nu : W \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ be the normalized blow-up of X along \mathfrak{a} ; then $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_W = \mathcal{O}_W(-D)$ is a locally principal ideal sheaf on W cutting out an effective

divisor D . One then sets $\bar{\mathfrak{a}} = \nu_* \mathcal{O}_W(-D)$. The valuations corresponding to prime divisors in the support of D are said to be the *Rees valuations* of the ideal \mathfrak{a} . When $\mathfrak{a} = \bar{\mathfrak{a}}$, we say that \mathfrak{a} is integrally closed or, more classically, *complete*.

Since any log resolution $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ of \mathfrak{a} factors through the normalized blow-up, we always have that $\bar{\mathfrak{a}} = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$ where $\mathfrak{a} \mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$. In addition, we may characterize the exceptional Rees valuations of \mathfrak{a} numerically as follows. Since $\mathfrak{a} \mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$ is globally generated, so is $\mathcal{O}_E(-F|_E)$ for any prime exceptional divisor E . In particular, we have $F \cdot E \leq 0$. Lemma 21.2 of [Lip69] shows that $F \cdot E < 0$ if and only if E corresponds to a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} .

In [ST06], it was shown that a prime exceptional divisor on the minimal resolution of a curve on a smooth surface contributes a jumping number if and only if it intersects at least three other components of the support of the pull-back of the curve. The following theorem gives analogous restrictions to critically contributing collections in our setting.

Theorem 5.1. *Suppose R is the local ring at an isolated rational singularity of a normal complex surface. Let $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq R$ be an ideal, and $\pi : Y \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ a log resolution of (X, \mathfrak{a}) such that $\mathfrak{a} \mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$. If the reduced divisor G with exceptional support critically contributes the jumping number λ to the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) , then G is a connected chain. The ends E of G must either:*

- *intersect at least three other prime divisors in the support of either F or K_π , or;*
- *correspond to a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} .*

Furthermore, the non-ends of G can intersect only those components of the support of F that also have λ as a candidate jumping number, and never correspond to a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} .

Proof. We will use the numerical criteria for critical contribution given in Theorem 4.3. These are stated in terms of intersections with $\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil$, which we manipulate into the following form

$$\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil = -\lfloor \lambda F - K_\pi \rfloor = K_\pi - \lambda F + \{\lambda F - K_\pi\}.$$

Suppose first $G = E$ is a prime exceptional divisor, and E is not a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} . Then by Theorem 4.3, since E contributes λ , we have that $\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil \cdot E \geq -E \cdot E$. Plugging in from above and using that $F \cdot E = 0$, we have

$$\{\lambda F - K_\pi\} \cdot E \geq 2,$$

where we have made use of the adjunction formula

$$(2) \quad -\deg (K_\pi + E)|_E = -\deg K_E = 2$$

applied to $E \cong \mathbb{P}^1$. Since λ is necessarily a candidate jumping number for E , it does not appear in $\{\lambda F - K_\pi\}$, which is an effective divisor with coefficients strictly less than one. As the divisors in K_π and F intersect transversely, at least three of them must intersect E in order for the above inequality to hold.

Assume now G is reducible. Since λ is critically contributed by G , we have that G is connected and $\lceil K_\pi - \lambda F \rceil \cdot E = -G \cdot E$ for all E in the support of G . Plugging in and rearranging terms as above gives

$$(3) \quad \{\lambda F - K_\pi\} \cdot E - \lambda F \cdot E = 2 - (G - E) \cdot E,$$

where we have made use of the adjunction formula (2) once more. Since $F \cdot E \leq 0$ and λ is a candidate jumping number for E , the left side of equation (3) is non-negative. Hence, we must have that $(G - E) \cdot E \leq 2$. As G is connected, in fact, $(G - E) \cdot E$ is either 1 or 2, so G is in fact a chain. If E is an end of G so that $(G - E) \cdot E = 1$ and E does not correspond to a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} , then

$$\{\lambda F - K_\pi\} \cdot E = 1.$$

It follows that E must intersect at least two components of F or K_π which do not have λ as a candidate jumping number. As it also intersects a component of G , all of which have λ as a candidate jumping number, the desired conclusion follows. On the other hand, if E is not an end of G so that $(G - E) \cdot E = 2$, we have

$$\{\lambda F - K_\pi\} \cdot E - \lambda F \cdot E = 0.$$

Thus, both terms on the left must vanish. In particular, $F \cdot E = 0$ so E does not correspond to a Rees valuation of E , and E can only intersect those components of F which also have λ as a candidate jumping number. \square

Remark 5.2. Recently, Schwede and Takagi [ST07] have made use of *multiplier submodules*⁵ in studying rational singularities of pairs. The multiplier submodules $\mathcal{J}(\omega_X, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(\lceil K_Y - \lambda F \rceil)$ are indexed by the positive rational numbers, and form nested sequence of submodules of the canonical module ω_X . These behave in a manner similar to multiplier ideals, and one can use them to define the rational threshold and rational jumping numbers of the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) . Since multiplier submodules satisfy the analogue of local vanishing, the same methods used above apply and give similar results for critical contribution of rational jumping numbers.

6. JUMPING NUMBER ALGORITHM AND COMPUTATIONS

We now describe an algorithm for computing the jumping numbers of (X, \mathfrak{a}) from a log resolution $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$. Let F be the effective divisor F on Y such that $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$, and E_1, \dots, E_r the prime divisors appearing in K_π or F .

Step 1. Compute the coefficients of the divisors $K_\pi = \sum_{i=1}^r b_i E_i$ and $F = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i E_i$, and use these to find the nontrivial candidate jumping numbers $\{\frac{b_i+m}{a_i} \mid m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$ for each E_i which are at most equal to two.

⁵These objects were also called *adjoint modules* in [HS03].

Step 2. Next, we must determine those E_i which correspond to Rees valuations of \mathfrak{a} . The E_i which are not exceptional, i.e. the strict transforms of divisorial components of the subscheme defined by \mathfrak{a} , always correspond to Rees valuations. The prime exceptional divisors E_i corresponding to Rees valuations are characterized by the property that $E_i \cdot F < 0$. Also determine which E_i intersect at least three other E_j , for $j \neq i$.

Step 3. For each candidate jumping number $\lambda \leq 2$ appearing in the first step, perform the following series of checks to determine if λ is realized as an actual jumping number.

- (i) If λ is a candidate jumping number for an E_i which is not exceptional and corresponds to a Rees valuation of \mathfrak{a} , then λ is realized as a jumping number contributed by E_i . Proceed to check the next candidate jumping number. Otherwise, continue to (ii).
- (ii) Using the necessary geometric conditions from Theorem 5.1, determine all of the connected chains of prime exceptional divisors which may critically contribute λ . Specifically, these are the connected exceptional chains $G = E_{i_1} + \cdots + E_{i_k}$ such that λ is a candidate jumping number for each E_{i_j} , and the ends of G either correspond to Rees valuations or intersect at least three other E_i .
- (iii) For each chain G from (ii), use the numerical criteria of Theorem 4.3 to determine if λ is realized as a jumping number critically contributed by G . Specifically,
 - If $G = E_{i_1}$ is prime, then λ is (critically) contributed by E_{i_1} to X if and only if

$$[K_\pi - \lambda F] \cdot E_{i_1} \geq -E_{i_1} \cdot E_{i_1}.$$

- If G is reducible, then λ is critically contributed by G if and only if

$$[K_\pi - \lambda F] \cdot E_{i_j} = -G \cdot E_{i_j}$$

for each of the prime divisors E_{i_j} in the support of G .

- (iv) If we are not in the situation of (i) and λ were realized as a jumping number, it would be critically contributed by some collection of exceptional divisors. Indeed, the sum of all the exceptional divisors in F which share this candidate jumping number would contribute, and a minimal contributing collection would critically contribute. Thus, if (i) and (iii) have produced only negative answers, we deduce that λ cannot be a jumping number.

Step 4. From above, we now know all of the jumping numbers of (X, \mathfrak{a}) which are at most two. To determine the remaining jumping numbers, recall that the jumping numbers are eventually periodic; $\lambda > 2$ is a jumping number if and only if $\lambda - 1$ is also a jumping number. This concludes the algorithm for computing the jumping numbers of (X, \mathfrak{a}) .

The remainder of this section focuses on a general scenario to which this method applies. We begin by altering our notation slightly. Assume R is the local ring at a rational singularity of a complex surface which is not smooth. Let $\pi : Y \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ be the minimal resolution of singularities of X , and \mathfrak{m} the maximal ideal of R . Since π is a composition of closed point blow-ups,

and X is singular, it must begin with a blow-up along this singular point. Thus, π is also a minimal log resolution of \mathfrak{m} . In this case, the effective divisor Z cut out by the principal ideal sheaf $\mathfrak{m}\mathcal{O}_Y$ is called the *fundamental cycle* of X .

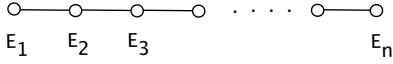
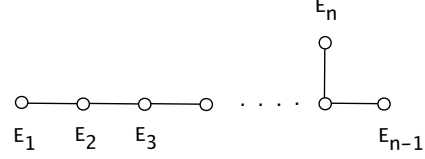
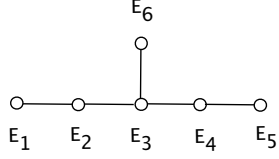
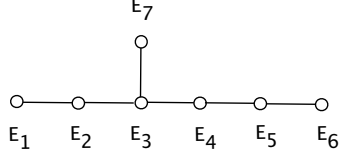
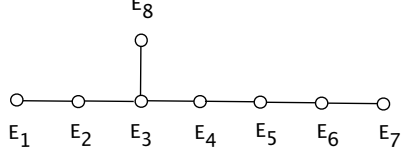
The fundamental cycle of X was first introduced by Artin in [Art66], where it was characterized numerically. We now recover this description while reproducing a summary from [LW03] of results found in [Lip69]. Recall that a divisor D on Y is said to be *antinef* if $D \cdot E \leq 0$ for all prime exceptional divisors E on Y . By a fundamental result of Lipman, Theorem 12.1 in [Lip69], a divisor D on Y is antinef if and only if $\mathcal{O}_Y(-D)$ is globally generated. In particular, an antinef divisor is effective. It follows immediately that there is a bijective correspondence between complete ideals $I \subseteq R$ such that $I\mathcal{O}_Y$ is invertible, and antinef divisors D on Y . Given a complete ideal $I \subseteq R$, the principal ideal sheaf $I\mathcal{O}_Y$ cuts out an antinef divisor D . In other words, we have that $I\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-D)$ where D is antinef. Conversely, if D on Y is antinef, then $\pi_*\mathcal{O}_Y(-D) = H^0(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y(-D))$ is a complete ideal of R . This correspondence is inclusion reversing, i.e. larger antinef divisors correspond to smaller ideals, and \mathfrak{m} -primary or *finite colength* ideals correspond to exceptionally supported antinef divisors. Since \mathfrak{m} is the largest finite colength ideal of R , Z is the unique smallest exceptionally supported antinef divisor on Y . In [Art66], it is shown that $-Z \cdot Z$ is the multiplicity of R , and $-Z \cdot Z + 1$ is its embedding dimension. To compute Z , one may proceed as follows. Start with the reduced sum of all of the prime exceptional divisors on Y . Add an additional prime exceptional divisor E only if the intersection of E with this sum is positive, and repeat this process with the new sum of exceptional divisors. After finitely many iterations of this procedure, the corresponding sum will be antinef and must necessarily be equal to Z .

Once Z has been found, in order to compute the jumping numbers of \mathfrak{m} , we first need the relative canonical divisor K_π . Recall⁶ that the restriction of the intersection product to the exceptional locus is negative definite. Thus, to compute K_π , it suffices to specify its intersection with any prime exceptional divisor E . Since $E \cong \mathbb{P}^1$, the adjunction formula once more gives $K_\pi \cdot E = -2 - E \cdot E$. Using the algorithm for finding jumping numbers described above, this shows how to compute the jumping numbers of \mathfrak{m} starting from intersection matrix of the prime exceptional divisors on Y .

Example 6.1 (Du Val Singularities). In Table 1, we give the results of applying the above techniques to the various types of *Du Val* singularities. In this case, the relative canonical divisor of the minimal resolution is zero, and all of the prime exceptional divisors have self-intersection -2 . The dual graph corresponding to the exceptional locus is given by one of the Dynkin diagrams of type A , D , or E . See Section 4.3 of [Sha94] for a full description. Recall that $\lambda > 2$ is a jumping number if and only if $\lambda - 1$ is also a jumping number.

⁶Artin [Art66] attributes this fact to Mumford [Mum61], while Lipman [Lip69] gives credit to Du Val.

TABLE 1. Jumping Numbers in Du Val Singularities

Type	Dual Graph	Jumping Numbers of the Maximal Ideal
A_n ($n \geq 1$)		$\{1, 2, \dots\}$
D_n ($n \geq 4$)		$\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \dots\}$
E_6		$\{\frac{1}{3}, \frac{4}{3}, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \dots\}$
E_7		$\{\frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \dots\}$
E_8		$\{\frac{1}{6}, \frac{7}{6}, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \dots\}$

A_n ($n \geq 1$) The fundamental cycle is $Z = E_1 + \dots + E_n$, and both E_1 and E_n are Rees valuations of the maximal ideal. The log canonical threshold 1 is critically contributed by $E_1 + \dots + E_n$, while all of the other jumping numbers are contributed by either E_1 or E_n .

D_n ($n \geq 4$) The fundamental cycle is $Z = E_1 + E_n + E_{n-1} + 2E_2 + \dots + 2E_{n-2}$, and E_2 is the only Rees valuation of the maximal ideal. The log canonical threshold $\frac{1}{2}$ is critically contributed by $E_2 + \dots + E_{n-2}$, while all other jumping numbers are contributed by E_2 .

- E_6 The fundamental cycle is $Z = E_1 + 2E_2 + 3E_3 + 2E_4 + E_5 + 2E_6$, and E_6 is the only Rees valuation of the maximal ideal. The jumping numbers $\{\frac{1}{3} + \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ are contributed by E_3 , while all other jumping numbers $\{\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ are contributed by E_6 .
- E_7 The fundamental cycle is $Z = 2E_1 + 3E_2 + 4E_3 + 3E_4 + 2E_5 + E_6 + 2E_7$, and E_1 is the only Rees valuation of the maximal ideal. The jumping numbers $\{\frac{1}{4} + \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ are contributed by E_3 , while all other jumping numbers $\{\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ are contributed by E_1 .
- E_8 The fundamental cycle is $Z = 2E_1 + 4E_2 + 6E_3 + 5E_4 + 4E_5 + 3E_6 + 2E_7 + 3E_8$, and E_7 is the only Rees valuation of the maximal ideal. The jumping numbers $\{\frac{1}{6} + \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ are contributed by E_3 , while all other jumping numbers $\{\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ are contributed by E_7 .

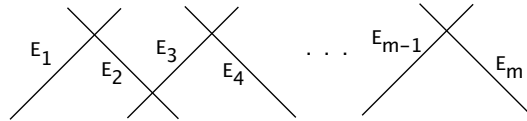
Example 6.2 (Cyclic Quotient Surface Singularities). Consider the action of the cyclic group of order n on $\mathbb{A}^2 = \text{Spec } \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ given by

$$x \mapsto \zeta_n x \quad y \mapsto (\zeta_n)^k y$$

where ζ_n is a primitive n -th root of unity, and $n > k$ are relatively prime positive integers. The quotient is a toric surface with a rational singularity. See [Ful93], Section 2.6, for a complete discription. Let R be the local ring at the singular point, and set $X = \text{Spec}(R)$. Consider the Hirzebruch-Jung continued fraction

$$\frac{n}{k} = a_1 - \frac{1}{a_2 - \frac{1}{\dots - \frac{1}{a_m}}}$$

of $\frac{n}{k}$, with integers $a_1, \dots, a_m \geq 2$. The exceptional set of the minimal resolution $\pi : Y \mapsto X$ is a chain of m rational curves



where $E_i \cdot E_i = -a_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, m$. The fundamental cycle is $Z = E_1 + \dots + E_m$. To find the candidate jumping numbers of E_i , set $j_0 = 1$ and $j_1 = \frac{k+1}{n}$. Define j_2, \dots, j_m recursively by

$$j_{i+1} = a_i j_i - j_{i-1}.$$

One can check the nontrivial candidate jumping numbers of E_i are precisely $\{j_i + \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$. Using that each $a_i \geq 2$ and the recursive definition, it is easy to see there is some $1 \leq k_1 \leq k_2 \leq m$ such that we have the inequalities

$$j_1 > j_2 > \dots > j_{k_1} \quad j_{k_1} = j_{k_1+1} = \dots = j_{k_2} \quad j_{k_2} < j_{k_2+1} < \dots < j_m$$

and $j_1, j_m \leq 1$. These relationships allow one to progressively check the numerical conditions given in Theorem 4.3, and we find the jumping numbers of the maximal ideal are precisely

$$\min\{j_1, \dots, j_m\} \cup \left(\bigcup_{i \in \mathcal{R}} \{j_i + \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\} \right).$$

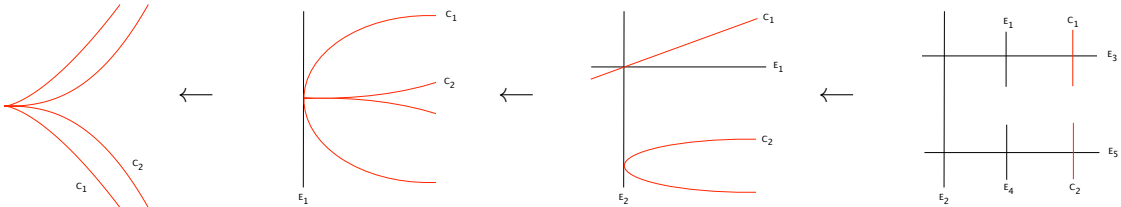
where $\mathcal{R} = \{1, m\} \cup \{i : a_i \geq 3\}$ is the set of indices of the E_i corresponding to Rees valuations of the maximal ideal. The log canonical threshold $\min\{j_1, \dots, j_m\}$ is critically contributed by $E_{j_{k_1}} + \dots + E_{j_{k_2}}$, while the jumping numbers $\{j_i + \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$ for $i \in \mathcal{R}$ are contributed by E_i .

7. APPLICATIONS TO SMOOTH SURFACES

Suppose R is the local ring at a point on a smooth surface, and $\pi : Y \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ is the minimal resolution of the divisor C on X . In [ST06], it was shown that an exceptional divisor E which intersects three other prime divisors in the support of π^*C contributes a jumping number less than one to the pair (X, C) . However, as the next example shows, a chain of exceptional divisors G in the minimal resolution of a plane curve C , where the ends E of G intersect at least three other prime divisors in the support of π^*C , may or may not critically contribute to the jumping numbers of the embedded curve. It remains unclear if additional geometric information would guarantee that G contributes a jumping number to (X, C) . A similar situation is found in [VV07], where Proeyen and Veys are concerned with the poles of the topological zeta function. To determine whether or not a candidate pole is a pole, they also rely on both geometric and numerical data.

Example 7.1. Suppose C is germ of the plane curve defined by the polynomial $(y^2 - x^5)(y^2 - x^3) = 0$. It takes two blow-ups to separate the two components of C , creating divisors E_1 and E_2 . At this point these components are both smooth. To ensure normal crossings, one must blow-up an additional point on the transform of the first component, and two additional points on the second, creating divisors E_3 , E_4 , and E_5 , respectively. One checks

$$\pi^*C = C + 4E_1 + 7E_2 + 12E_3 + 8E_4 + 16E_5 \quad K_\pi = E_1 + 2E_2 + 4E_3 + 3E_4 + 6E_5$$



By the Theorem 5.1, the only possible chain of length greater than one that can contribute a jumping number is $E_2 + E_3 + E_5$. However, these three divisors do not share a common candidate jumping number less than one; hence, they cannot critically contribute any jumping number less than one. Notice the similarity between the exceptional divisors here and those in Example 3.3. Despite the fact that the corresponding chains ($E_2 + E_3 + E_5$ here, and $E_0 + E_2 + E'_2$ in Example 3.3)

intersect their complements the same number of times, one chain contributes a jumping number while the other does not.

Remark 7.2. One of the initial motivations for studying jumping number contribution was to further understand the work of Järvilehto [Jär06]. It gives an explicit formula for the jumping numbers of the germ of an analytically irreducible plane curve. In addition, the jumping numbers are partitioned into subsets corresponding to prime divisors on the minimal resolution which intersect three others in the pull-back of the curve. In future work, we will show the jumping numbers less than one are always contributed by prime exceptional divisors, and the partitioning in [Jär06] corresponds to grouping together the jumping numbers contributed by a particular prime divisor.

Järvilehto simultaneously computes the jumping numbers of any simple complete finite colength ideal in a two dimensional regular local ring, and in doing so shows that 1 is not a jumping number of such an ideal. Our next result uses Theorem 5.1 to give an alternative proof of this fact, and concludes further that this gives a criterion for simplicity.

For the remainder of this section, we fix the following notation. Let R be the local ring at a point on a smooth complex surface, and $\pi : Y \rightarrow X = \text{Spec}(R)$ the minimal resolution of a complete finite colength ideal $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq R$ such that $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-F)$. Note that the numerical criterion for critical contribution can be simplified using the adjunction formula. A single exceptional prime divisor E contributes a candidate jumping number λ if and only if $-\lfloor \lambda F \rfloor \cdot E \geq 2$; a reducible chain of exceptional divisors G with common candidate jumping number λ critically contributes λ if and only if the ends E of G satisfy $-\lfloor \lambda F \rfloor \cdot E = 1$, and the non-ends E' of G satisfy $-\lfloor \lambda F \rfloor \cdot E' = 0$.

Before we begin, it is first necessary to review some of the Zariski-Lipman theory of complete ideals in two dimensional regular local rings. A good summary of this theory can be found in the introduction to [LW03], as well as [Jär06]. Let E_1, \dots, E_n be the prime exceptional divisors, and consider $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}E_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}E_n$ the lattice they generate. There is another free \mathbb{Z} -basis for Λ , denoted $\hat{E}_1, \dots, \hat{E}_n$, defined by the property that $\hat{E}_i \cdot E_i = -1$ and $\hat{E}_i \cdot E_j = 0$ for $i \neq j$. Note that these divisors generate the semigroup of antinef divisors in Λ . Indeed, $D = \hat{d}_1 \hat{E}_1 + \dots + \hat{d}_n \hat{E}_n$ is antinef if and only if $\hat{d}_i = -D \cdot E_i \geq 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. It is not hard to see that the corresponding complete finite colength ideals $P_i = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(-\hat{E}_i)$ are simple, i.e. cannot be written nontrivially as a product of ideals.

Suppose $I = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_Y(-D)$ is the complete finite colength ideal corresponding to the antinef divisor $D = \hat{d}_1 \hat{E}_1 + \dots + \hat{d}_n \hat{E}_n \in \Lambda$. Then we see immediately $I = P_1^{\hat{d}_1} \dots P_n^{\hat{d}_n}$, and this factorization is unique as $\hat{E}_1, \dots, \hat{E}_n$ are a basis for Λ . Further, the valuations on \mathcal{K} corresponding to those E_i such that \hat{d}_i are nonzero are precisely the Rees valuations of I . As any complete ideal can be written uniquely as the product of a principal ideal and a finite colength complete ideal,⁷ unique factorization extends to all complete ideals of R .

⁷Observe that $I = (I^{-1})^{-1} \cdot (II^{-1})$ shows how this is achieved.

Proposition 7.3. *A complete finite colength ideal \mathfrak{a} in the local ring of a smooth complex surface is simple if and only if 1 is not a jumping number of (X, \mathfrak{a}) .*

Proof. If \mathfrak{a} is simple, then $\mathfrak{a} = P_i$ for some i , and we have that $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_Y = \mathcal{O}_Y(-\hat{E}_i)$. Suppose, by way of contradiction, 1 is a jumping number of (X, \mathfrak{a}) . We may assume there is a reduced chain of exceptional divisors G which critically contributes 1 to the pair (X, \mathfrak{a}) . G cannot be a single prime divisor E since $-\hat{E}_i \cdot E$ is either 0 or 1. Thus, G is reducible and must have two distinct ends satisfying $-\hat{E}_i \cdot E = 1$. Since this only happens for $E = E_i$, 1 is not a jumping number of (X, \mathfrak{a}) .

Alternatively, assume that $\mathfrak{a} = P_1^{\hat{d}_1} \cdots P_n^{\hat{d}_n}$ is the finite colength complete ideal corresponding to the antinef divisor $D = \hat{d}_1 \hat{E}_1 + \cdots + \hat{d}_n \hat{E}_n$, and \mathfrak{a} is not simple. Suppose first there is some i such that $\hat{d}_i \geq 2$. In this case, $-D \cdot E_i = \hat{d}_i \geq 2$ shows that 1 is a jumping number contributed by E_i . Otherwise, we may assume \hat{d}_i is 0 or 1 for each i , and at least two such are nonzero. In this case, we can find two of them $\hat{d}_{i_1} = \hat{d}_{i_2} = 1$ such that for any E_j in the unique chain of exceptional divisors G connecting E_{i_1} and E_{i_2} we have $\hat{d}_j = 0$. Theorem 5.1 now gives that 1 is a jumping number of (X, \mathfrak{a}) critically contributed by G . \square

Remark 7.4. The technique used in Corollary 7.3 also shows that every chain of exceptional divisors critically contributes a jumping number for some ideal $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$ having π as a resolution. Indeed, if G is the chain connecting E_{i_1} and E_{i_2} , then G critically contributes 1 to the ideal $P_{i_1}P_{i_2}$. One can also use this method to produce examples where many intersecting and nonintersecting chains critically contribute the same jumping number to a given pair.

REFERENCES

- [Art62] Michael Artin, *Some numerical criteria for contractability of curves on algebraic surfaces*, Amer. J. Math. **84** (1962), 485–496. MR MR0146182 (26 #3704)
- [Art66] ———, *On isolated rational singularities of surfaces*, Amer. J. Math. **88** (1966), 129–136. MR MR0199191 (33 #7340)
- [BL04] Manuel Blickle and Robert Lazarsfeld, *An informal introduction to multiplier ideals*, Trends in commutative algebra, Math. Sci. Res. Inst. Publ., vol. 51, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 2004, pp. 87–114. MR MR2132649 (2007h:14003)
- [ELSV04] Lawrence Ein, Robert Lazarsfeld, Karen E. Smith, and Dror Varolin, *Jumping coefficients of multiplier ideals*, Duke Math. J. **123** (2004), no. 3, 469–506. MR MR2068967 (2005k:14004)
- [FJ04] Charles Favre and Mattias Jonsson, *The valuative tree*, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, vol. 1853, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2004. MR MR2097722 (2006a:13008)
- [FJ05] ———, *Valuations and multiplier ideals*, J. Amer. Math. Soc. **18** (2005), no. 3, 655–684 (electronic). MR MR2138140 (2007b:14004)
- [Ful93] William Fulton, *Introduction to toric varieties*, Annals of Mathematics Studies, vol. 131, Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1993, , The William H. Roever Lectures in Geometry. MR MR1234037 (94g:14028)
- [How01] J. A. Howald, *Multiplier ideals of monomial ideals*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **353** (2001), no. 7, 2665–2671 (electronic). MR MR1828466 (2002b:14061)
- [How03] ———, *Multiplier ideals of sufficiently general polynomials*, 2003.

- [HS03] Eero Hyry and Karen E. Smith, *On a non-vanishing conjecture of Kawamata and the core of an ideal*, Amer. J. Math. **125** (2003), no. 6, 1349–1410. MR MR2018664 (2006c:13036)
- [Jär06] Tarmo Järvilehto, *Jumping numbers of a simple complete ideal in a two-dimensional regular local ring*, 2006.
- [Kaw82] Yujiro Kawamata, *A generalization of Kodaira-Ramanujam's vanishing theorem*, Math. Ann. **261** (1982), no. 1, 43–46. MR MR675204 (84i:14022)
- [KMM87] Yujiro Kawamata, Katsumi Matsuda, and Kenji Matsuki, *Introduction to the minimal model problem*, Algebraic geometry, Sendai, 1985, Adv. Stud. Pure Math., vol. 10, North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1987, pp. 283–360. MR MR946243 (89e:14015)
- [Laz04] Robert Lazarsfeld, *Positivity in algebraic geometry. II*, Ergebnisse der Mathematik und ihrer Grenzgebiete. 3. Folge. A Series of Modern Surveys in Mathematics [Results in Mathematics and Related Areas. 3rd Series. A Series of Modern Surveys in Mathematics], vol. 49, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2004, Positivity for vector bundles, and multiplier ideals. MR MR2095472 (2005k:14001b)
- [Lib83] A. Libgober, *Alexander invariants of plane algebraic curves*, Singularities, Part 2 (Arcata, Calif., 1981), Proc. Sympos. Pure Math., vol. 40, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 1983, pp. 135–143. MR MR713242 (85h:14017)
- [Lip69] Joseph Lipman, *Rational singularities, with applications to algebraic surfaces and unique factorization*, Inst. Hautes Études Sci. Publ. Math. (1969), no. 36, 195–279. MR MR0276239 (43 #1986)
- [LV90] F. Loeser and M. Vaquié, *Le polynôme d'Alexander d'une courbe plane projective*, Topology **29** (1990), no. 2, 163–173. MR MR1056267 (91d:32053)
- [LW03] Joseph Lipman and Kei-ichi Watanabe, *Integrally closed ideals in two-dimensional regular local rings are multiplier ideals*, Math. Res. Lett. **10** (2003), no. 4, 423–434. MR MR1995782 (2004m:13059)
- [Mum61] David Mumford, *The topology of normal singularities of an algebraic surface and a criterion for simplicity*, Inst. Hautes Études Sci. Publ. Math. (1961), no. 9, 5–22. MR MR0153682 (27 #3643)
- [ST06] Karen E. Smith and Howard M. Thompson, *Irrelevant exceptional divisors for curves on a smooth surface*, 2006, To appear in the volume of the Midwest Algebra, Geometry and their Interactions Conference 2005.
- [ST07] Karl Schwede and Shunsuke Takagi, *Rational singularities associated to pairs*, 2007, To appear in the Michigan Mathematics Journal.
- [Vaq92] Michel Vaquié, *Irrégularité des revêtements cycliques des surfaces projectives non singulières*, Amer. J. Math. **114** (1992), no. 6, 1187–1199. MR MR1198299 (94d:14015)
- [Vaq94] ———, *Irrégularité des revêtements cycliques*, Singularities (Lille, 1991), London Math. Soc. Lecture Note Ser., vol. 201, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1994, pp. 383–419. MR MR1295085 (95f:14030)
- [Sha94] Igor R. Shafarevich, *Basic algebraic geometry. 1*, second ed., Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1994, Varieties in projective space, Translated from the 1988 Russian edition and with notes by Miles Reid. MR MR1328833 (95m:14001)
- [VV07] Lise Van Proeyen and Willem Veys, *Poles of the topological zeta function associated to an ideal in dimension two*, 2007, To appear in Mathematische Zeitschrift.
- [Vie82] Eckart Viehweg, *Vanishing theorems*, J. Reine Angew. Math. **335** (1982), 1–8. MR MR667459 (83m:14011)

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109

E-mail address: kevtuck@umich.edu